

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence for Application Serial No. 10/710,305 is being electronically transmitted to Technology Center 3612, via EFS-WEB, on 20 June 2006.

/William R. Allen/

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June 20, 2006

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Dave Dooley et al.	Confirmation No.:	4304
Serial No:	10/710,305		
Filing Date:	July 1, 2004		
Art Unit:	3612		
Examiner:	Dennis H. Pedder		
Title:	VEHICLE TRIM PANEL WITH INTEGRAL NIBBED ARMREST		
Atty Docket:	MASL-43		

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicant's undersigned counsel notes the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached with the Notice of Allowability. The reasons set forth by the Examiner refer only to some of the features in independent claims 1 and 4, and are not the only reasons that all of the claims are allowable.

With respect to independent claim 1, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a door trim panel for attachment to a door frame of a motor vehicle, comprising: a main body portion adapted to be removably secured to the door frame, said main body portion including a support surface and a plurality of tab openings in said support surface; and an armrest fastened to said main body portion, said armrest including first and second side edges, a surface between said first and second side edges, a plurality of spaced-apart projections projecting from said surface to contact said support surface of said main body portion to thereby support said armrest, and a plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs projecting from said first and second side edges and engaged with said plurality of tab openings. Dependent claim 3, which depends from claim 1, is believed to be allowable based upon claim 1 and upon other features recited in claim 3 but not discussed herein.

With respect to independent claim 4, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a door trim panel for attachment to a door frame of a motor vehicle, comprising: a main body portion adapted to be removably secured to the door frame, said main body portion including an access opening; a bolster removably secured to said main body portion, said bolster covering said access opening, and said bolster including a support surface and a plurality of tab openings in said support surface; and an armrest fastened to said bolster, said armrest including first and second side edges, a surface between said first and second side edges, a plurality of spaced-apart projections projecting from said surface to contact said support surface of said main body portion to thereby support said armrest, and a plurality of spaced-apart locking tabs projecting from said first and second side edges and engaged with said plurality of tab openings. Claim 6 depends from claim 4. Accordingly, dependent claim 6 is believed to be allowable based upon claim 4 and upon other features recited in claim 6 but not discussed herein.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of these comments, he is respectfully requested to provide further explanation on the record.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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